

SEARCHING RUINS FOR EVIDENCE

Inspectors Investigate St. John's Parochial School Building to Learn Cause of Fire.

FIVE GIRLS MISSING

Plans for Public Funeral for Little Victims of Holocaust Being Made.

Peabody, Mass., Oct. 29.—In the cavity within the blackened brick shell which yesterday morning was St. John's parochial school men searched today for evidence as to the cause of the fire which cost the lives of twenty-one girls. The ruins also were examined carefully for more victims. Early today five bodies remained unidentified while five girls were reported missing by their families. Owing to the condition of unclaimed bodies positive identification probably will be impossible.

The search for possible additional bodies was directed by Chief of Police Grady while inspectors of the state police conducted the investigation into the cause of the fire.

The only fact substantiated was that the flames originated in a small store room in the basement which was locked. It is known that it was customary to place waste paper and sweepings in wooden barrels in the store room. According to the sisters of the Order of Notre Dame, who were in charge of the school, nothing was there. At one end of the room there was a gas jet. This room was closely examined today for evidence showing how the fire started.

Plans for a public funeral for the little ones were discussed today and the arrangements were placed in the hands of Rev. Nicholas J. Murphy, pastor of St. John's church.

Acting Chief Neal of the state police who concluded his investigation today, announced that no one had been found criminally responsible for the fire. He said that while the building was badly constructed, it complied with the essential requirements of the law.

The real fault in the building was the fact that all the stairways led toward the center of the building and not toward the exits," said Chief Neal. "I am convinced that the inspectors did their duty. The investigation, so far as the state is concerned, is over."

One of the many theories, advanced today to explain the origin of the fire, was the sweepings kept in the basement store room where the blaze is believed to have started may have contained match heads dropped on the floor by some of the boys pupils.

Peabody, Mass., Oct. 29.—The bodies of all the twenty-one pupils of St. John's parochial school who lost their lives yesterday in a fire which swept through the building before they had time to escape, were claimed by their parents today.

Five bodies remained overnight in an undertaking establishment while relatives endeavored to identify them. Four of these had been identified at noon and there remained the charred form of a little girl, burned beyond recognition.

When the four had been taken away, Mrs. John Ahearn, mother of Agnes Ahearn, 8 years old, who was unaccounted for, went to the morgue and finally accepted the body as that of her child. It was placed in a coffin and sent to her home.

While investigation has not fully established the origin of the fire, Acting Chief Neal of the state police, after an investigation today, announced that he had found no one criminally responsible.

Chas. Chaplin in "His Pre-historic Past" and "The Diamond From the Sky," at the Rex tonight.

MANY EUROPEANS BEING NATURALIZED

Chicago, Oct. 29.—Federal and county judges of Chicago had tightened procedure in naturalization cases for the purposes of eliminating the hyphen.

In practically all cases applicants are asked if they would bear arms for the United States against their native country and whether they ex-

pect to be known as Americans or European Americans. Despite this it is said that Europeans are being naturalized here in increasing numbers.

FEDERAL COUNCIL FIXING PRICES.

Berlin, Oct. 29, via London, 10:37 a. m.—The federal council has issued an order empowering the imperial chancellor to fix the maximum price for potatoes, fish and game. The chancellor immediately set the retail price of potatoes at 435 pfennings (\$1.09) a metric hundredweight. Producers are permitted to demand a maximum of 305 pfennings.

Risca Williams, a member of the Royal Welsh Male Quartette, tells the story of the Lusitania and the rescue of the Welsh Singers in connection with the concert to be given at the First Congregational Church at 8:30 Saturday night. Admission 50 cents, children 25 cents.

SECRET SERVICE MEN KEPT BUSY

Men Assigned to Fay Case Believe Bombs on Ships Were Made by Lieutenant Fay.

New York, Oct. 29.—Secret service men assigned to the cases of Robert Fay, the confessed bomb plotter and four others charged with conspiracy in planning to disable ships laden with war munitions for the allies, worked on a report today that the bombs used by Fay were similar to those which had caused fires on certain trans-Atlantic ships last summer. As late as last month small fires were reported on ships loaded with sugar. In one instance a sugar ship on its arrival in a European port reported that two bombs discovered on board while the vessel was at sea, had failed to explode.

Secret service men said the fires on the ships were caused by chlorate of potash, the same material which Fay says he used in preparing bombs to attach to ships' rudders and propellers and that several of the ships which discovered fires aboard had sailed from piers in the Hudson river, not far from the boat house at Weehawken, N. J., where Fay, with Walter L. Scholz, his brother-in-law, kept a powerful motor boat together with explosives.

ENGLISH WOMAN TELLS OF ESCAPE

Leaves Belgium Disguised as Flemish Peasant and Creeping Under Barbed Wires Into Dutch Territory.

New York, Oct. 29.—Mrs. Malcolm Carter, an English woman of Belgian birth, who arrived here last night, told her friends today the story of how she escaped from Belgium by disguising herself as a Flemish peasant, and creeping under the barbed wires on the Dutch frontier. Mrs. Carter came here to seek aid for disabled Belgian soldiers.

She went from London to Belgium to visit her father and says that her passport was taken away on the orders of General von Rissing, the military commander. She was suspected of being a spy, but after two months obtained a new passport from another German commander, but that also was confiscated. She realized then that her only means of escape was by subterfuge.

"There were times," Mrs. Carter said, "when we were crawling on the ground and it was eleven hours before we reached the barbed wire that marks the border."

MILLIONS SPENT TO BAR OUT PLAGUE

New Orleans, La., Oct. 29.—More than \$4,500,000 has been expended in the last year to make rat-proof buildings and prevent the reappearance of bubonic plague, according to an announcement made here today by Dr.

R. H. Creel of the United States public health service, in charge of the work. Seventy-four thousand five hundred and twenty-six buildings have been made rat-proof, about 7,000 not considered worth repairing by the owners have been demolished and work is progressing on 29,301 others. Approximately 7,000 buildings still are to be made rat-proof.

Citizens of New Orleans have expended approximately \$3,861,000 on their property while the federal, state and city governments have spent more than \$600,000 in the campaign.

LINCOLN'S RIFLE SOLD AT AUCTION

New York, Oct. 29.—A rifle purchased by Abraham Lincoln and Henry Broderick for \$15 when they lived in Spencer county, Indiana, and which

was used by the famous war president in deer hunting, brought \$255 in a sale of Lincoln relics here. It was a part of the collection of John E. Burton, of Milwaukee.

One of Lincoln's law books sold for \$95.

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KING GEORGE SEVERELY HURT

Horse at Troop Inspection Rears and Falls and British Monarch Is Badly Bruised.

London, Oct. 29, 2:5 p. m.—An accident to the king happened yesterday morning. The king was thrown from his horse and severely bruised. The following official announcement was made:

"While the king this morning (Thursday) was inspecting his army in the field, his horse excited by the cheers of the troops, reared up and fell. The king was bruised severely and will be confined to bed for the present."

Announcement was made on Monday that King George was in France, having gone to visit the British army. On Tuesday the king with the Prince of Wales, President Poincare and the French war minister, Alexandre E. Millerand, reviewed the British troops. He then called on General Joffre and witnessed a review of the French colonial troops.

A later bulletin, under today's date, says: "The king has had a fair night with some sleep. The temperature is now 99.2 and pulse 75. His majesty's general condition has improved and no

complications have arisen." It is understood that the accident to the king was not serious, although no details have been made public beyond those disclosed in the official announcement.

SEATTLE POLICE INVESTIGATING

Thorough Probe Into Cause of \$500,000 Fire Which Destroyed Pier Being Made.

Seattle, Wash., Oct. 29.—Police and fire department officials today were conducting a thorough investigation into the origin of the \$500,000 fire which last night destroyed pier 14, used by the Blue Funnel Line of British steamers for large shipments of provisions and supplies for England, Russia and Japan. More than a million dollars worth of freight, mostly imports from China and Japan, was in the warehouse, but hard work by firemen saved half of the contents of the building from destruction.

The fact that the fire started in piles of rattan stored with other highly inflammable merchandise on the second floor in the same manner as two small blazes which were promptly extinguished early last Tuesday, caused fire department officials to believe that the fire probably was set by some one who objected to the shipment of munitions of war for the Russian armies.

The police today centered their attention upon tracing the actions of D. Wilmann, a longshoreman, who was arrested last night on suspicion of knowing the cause of the conflagration.

HUTT RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT. Albany, Ga., Oct. 29.—W. N. Hutt of Raleigh, N. C., was re-elected president of the National Nut Growers association which adjourned its four-

teenth annual convention here last night.

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